



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000


AS
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04 FEB 23 PM 3:56
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TO 7354
SPEAKER'S ROOMS
U.S. HOUSE OF REPS.

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

On behalf of the Secretary of Defense, I have authorized Major General Thomas L. Baptiste, United States Air Force, to wear the insignia of lieutenant general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777. This approval will not be executed prior to the expiration of the required 30-day congressional notification period. The Senate previously confirmed Major General Baptiste as the Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Commission, and appointment to lieutenant general. Major General Baptiste is projected for promotion upon the retirement of the incumbent, Vice Admiral Malcolm I. Fages, United States Navy, in June 2004.

Sincerely,


Charles S. Abell
Principal Deputy

cc:
Chairman,
House Armed Services Committee
Ranking Member,
House Armed Services Committee